GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6292
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2003
WELFARE SCHEMES UNDER DESERT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
KAILASH MEGHWAL

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the welfare schemes being implemented by the Government for farmers under the Desert Development Programme, State-wise;

(b) the criteria adopted for providing loan, grants and other financial assistance to them;

(c) the funds allocated/released to States under these Programmes scheme-wise and agency-wise; and

(d) the ratio of the contribution of the State Governments in these schemes?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL):

(a) to (d) The Desert Development Programme (DDP) is an area development programme which aims at controlling desertification by regeneration of depleted natural resource base and ameliorating socio-economic status of the resource poor people including the marginal & small farmers inhabiting the programme areas. The DDP is being implemented on watershedbasis since 1995-96 in 235 blocks and 40 districts across 7 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka and Rajasthan. & The unit of programme implementation is a watershed project of about 500 hectares with a project cost of Rs. 30.00 lakhs shared by the Central Government and the State Governmentsin 75:25 ratio. Under DDP, statewise allocation of funds is not made. The watershed projects are sanctioned as per the Guidelines of Watershed Development and the funds are released to the DRDAs/ZPs in seven instalments over the project period of five years. The statementshowing State-wise funds released from 1995-96 to 2002-2003 is enclosed.